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PREFACE

It was recommended in the Second Annual Report of the Director-General to the FAO Conference that a Monthly Bulletin on Fisheries be published as "a medium for presenting current statistics and for keeping governments informed of new developments in the fisheries industry throughout the world." This was unanimously approved.

The Fisheries Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is divided into three branches (Economics, Biological and Technological) and it is intended that the Bulletin will cover these three fields. The first issue, however, will place special emphasis on economics and statistics since this branch has been longest in operation.

An important part of FAO's function is its service as a clearing-house for information. Much of the information received by FAO will have to be adapted in some degree to make the presentation uniform and the information more useful.

The first Yearbook of Fisheries Statistics is in the press. Work has already begun on the next Yearbook. The second progress report of the Salted Fish Study is in active preparation. Other commodity reports are planned. The Bulletin will reflect this activity and will make available from time to time material in preparation for such publications, as it is often of some topical interest.

For the moment the statistical service this Bulletin can offer is limited since for example, statistics obtainable at present cover little more than 50 percent of world landings. It is sometimes difficult to make landings statistics reliably comparable. Even within the short period of this division's operations, however, it has been possible to improve international statistics in this respect and this aspect of our work will be developed further.

This issue of the Bulletin must be considered as a practice run. Its editorial pattern is by no means stabilized and we are looking forward to comments and suggestions from readers in order to make the Bulletin of maximum practical value.

As this Bulletin will be published in three languages (English, French, and Spanish) it will reach a wider readership than most existing fisheries publications. However, it is not our intention to compete with the service offered by these publications, but rather to make some of their important work available to a wider international readership. For this reason, it will be one of our editorial principles to quote the source of information given. We hope that editors of fisheries periodicals will find this material useful and it is, of course, available for reproduction, with the usual acknowledgements.

INDO-PACIFIC FISHERIES COUNCIL RECOMMENDED

Delegates to the Fisheries Meeting of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization at Baguio, Philippines, agreed on 26 February to recommend to the consideration of their governments the establishment of a regional fisheries council to be called the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council. Representatives of the Governments of Burma, China, France, India, Netherlands, Philippines, United Kingdom and the United States of America participated in the recommendation.

Membership of the Council is open to all member governments of FAO. The agreement provides that governments not members of FAO may become members of the regional council after approval by the FAO Conference and two-thirds of the Council members.

The Council will be established and the agreement will go into effect when five participating members have ratified the agreement. The seat of the Council will be the seat of the FAO Regional Office for the Far East.

The agreement lays down a comprehensive nine-point program covering the activities of the Council which will aid greatly in the development and proper utilization of living aquatic resources in the Indo-Pacific area. The delegates to the fisheries meeting emphasized that very little information is available on the subject of food fishes which inhabit the waters of this area but it is believed that these waters will provide an important source of animal protein to alleviate the deficiency of this element in the diet of Far Eastern peoples.

Four committees will initiate work pending the formation of the Council: (1) Biological Committee (Chairman: G. Herklots, United Kingdom); (2) Hydrology Committee (Chairman: L. Baas Becking, Netherlands); (3) Technology Committee (Chairman: D. Villadolid, Philippines); (4) Taxonomy Committee (Chairman: S. Hora, India).

PRELIMINARY STATISTICS OF TOTAL LANDINGS IN SOME COUNTRIES: 1946

The table published on the next page is a development of the study in progress on landings and utilization of fish in some countries. Similar figures for 1947, covering a wider range of countries, will very soon be available and will be published in a subsequent bulletin. The questionnaire grouped species under nine main heads. For purposes of comparison, the governments were asked to convert all figures to round fresh weight. This table will of course be incorporated in the first Fisheries Yearbook, which is at present in the press.

Table 1. - Preliminary Statistics on Total Landings in Some Countries, 1946
(Reported to FAO Fisheries Division in Round Weight, Metric Tons)

Country	Total	Cod and related species	Herring and similar species	Tuna	Mackerel (all types included)	Flatfish (halibut, flounder, etc.)	Salmon, Trout & similar species	Shellfish	Shark & shark-like species	Fresh-water fish	Other species
Belgium	73,336	14,162	37,947	-	598	12,395	ϕ	1,300	1,086	-	a/ 5,848
Canada	612,289	200,162	223,391	1,245	12,689	18,767	78,523	37,670	42	39,334	466
Chile	64,570	-	4,301	1,527	-	367	-	21,129	171	-	37,075
Denmark b/	197,400	68,000	27,500	630	7,200	66,700	1,400	2,900	1,800	270	21,000
Egypt	42,000	-	5,500	-	-	-	-	-	500	4,500	c/31,500
Finland	49,000	100	20,000	-	-	10	500	-	-	20,000	8,390
France	244,500	37,800	56,400	6,800	13,500	d/	-	-	d/	-	e/130,000
United Kingdom	1,031,885	670,005	207,528	-	3,171	107,440	1,089	28,055	6,005	-	8,592
Iceland	368,150	225,700	131,720	-	-	4,900	450	-	-	-	5,380
Ireland	21,082	5,029	5,182	-	3,404	965	711	3,759	-	152	1,880
Italy	160,200	-	37,000	2,200	10,000	-	-	8,000	-	18,000	85,000
Japan	f/1,626,700	59,800	601,500	40,300	52,500	75,200	g/30,000	293,300	50,500	-	423,600
Netherlands	190,362	18,500	106,500	-	800	21,000	2	38,500	60	-	5,000
Newfoundland	377,327	297,220	73,541	-	523	194	2,963	1,755	-	-	1,131
New Zealand	32,047	947	127	-	27	2,565	-	9,044	145	h/	i/19,192
Norway	933,300	394,000	510,490	100	7,250	6,800	1,200	6,900	3,500	-	3,060
Peru	27,657	-	341	17,082	2,869	67	-	-	776	-	6,522
Philippines	17,751	-	8,349	152	5,621	-	-	94	23	-	3,512
Portugal	285,569	62,312	161,519	6,174	1,419	3,233	778	19,297	3,700	-	27,137
Sweden	193,500	38,000	87,500	-	5,500	5,500	-	-	-	-	j/57,000
United States and Alaska	1,995,827	145,746	773,383	101,152	48,535	77,656	202,985	222,262	27,216	56,700	340,192
TOTAL	8,544,452	2,237,483	3,079,719	177,362	175,606	403,759	320,601	693,965	95,524	138,956	1,221,477

Source: FAO questionnaire on "Preliminary Report on Landings and Utilization, 1946."

a/ Including "ragides" (4,374 tons) and "beaudroi" (73 tons).
b/ Faroe Islands and Greenland not included.
c/ Including 25,000 tons of brackish-water fish.
d/ Flatfish and sharks included with "Other species".
e/ Including flatfish and sharks.
f/ Does not include 130,000 tons-aquiculture estimate; 1,420,800 tons-blackmarket estimate; 34,100 tons-whales; and 88,400 tons-seaweeds.
g/ Estimated.
h/ Fresh-water fish may be included with "Other species.
i/ May include fresh-water fish.
j/ Including 12,000 metric tons landed abroad and 25,000 metric tons scrap fish unavailable by species.

Note: Tables in this Bulletin use the following symbols: - Nil; ϕ Negligible; ... Statistics incomplete or not available.

PRODUCTION OF SALTED COD AND RELATED SPECIES

Note: The Fisheries Division is at present making a study on salted codfish and related species. The study is divided into three parts: (a) historical - covering the period from 1920 to 1940; (b) the changes brought about by World War II; and (c) the present situation and prospects for the future.

The first Progress Report of th study was released in June of 1947; the second report is now being completed and it is hoped that the final report will be available in the summer of 1948. The table "Production of Salted Cod and Related Species" shown on the next page was compiled in the course of this study. The gaps in this table are being filled in as information becomes available. However, it is felt that these omissions did not materially affect the overall picture. In the absence of more reliable production figures, export figures are used as an indication of production in the major exporting countries.1/ In the countries for which this has been done, the domestic consumption is very small compared with the export.

Production and the international trade in salted codfish and related species increased continuously throughout the '20's and reached its height towards the end of the decade. While all the producing countries, with the exception of Newfoundland and Canada, contributed to this increase, it is accounted for largely by increased catches in Norway and Iceland - particularly the latter.

In the '30's production progressively declined reaching a low of 205,000 tons in 1939, for the countries dealt with, as compared with 283,000 tons in 1929. Although all the major exporting countries experienced a drop in this period, Iceland and Canada showed the greatest percentage declines.

Following the outbreak of World War II, Denmark (Faroe Islands), France, and Iceland practically disappeared as producers of salted codfish and production in Norway was reduced to a minimum. The loss of production of these countries, rather than being made up in part by Canada and Newfoundland, was actually accompanied by drops in production in those countries also so that by 1943 the total production of salted codfish and related species had reached a new low of some 82,000 tons. With the end of the war and the reappearance of the northern European countries in the salted codfish trade, production took an upswing and had reached some 153,000 tons in 1946 (Portugal, Spain, and St. Pierre and Miquelon excluded). Preliminary figures for 1947 indicate that production may reach and even exceed 200,000 tons, dry-salted weight.

1/ To make the figures comparable, figures have been converted to a dry-salted basis.

(Metric tons, converted to dried basis)

Year	Total a/	Canada b/	Faroe Islands (Denmark) b/	France	Green-land (Denmark) b/	Ice-land b/	Newfound-land b/	Norway c/	St.Pierre and Miquelon	Portu-gal	Spain	Total expor from these countries
1920	227,757	28,691	d/10,084	26,040	e/112	30,777	94,154	37,899	...	...	...	214,950
1921	215,544	39,299	8,432	32,440	e/ 92	32,668	70,301	32,312	...	...	...	203,327
1922	218,823	34,594	9,324	34,376	e/141	31,492	81,738	27,158	...	...	...	204,142
1923	243,876	29,262	8,022	41,016	e/162	46,796	76,143	42,475	...	...	...	226,869
1924	238,622	28,704	8,581	32,842	190	52,636	65,508	50,161	...	...	...	231,201
1925	235,029	32,715	7,234	39,960	178	52,406	59,736	42,800	...	...	...	220,554
1926	264,378	35,810	13,035	47,502	242	47,484	70,434	49,871	...	...	...	246,764
1927	281,914	33,822	10,616	43,594	520	60,429	81,144	50,799	...	...	990	271,296
1928	287,723	31,869	13,366	40,071	800	73,902	81,149	43,761	...	...	2,805	273,811
1929	283,125	30,778	13,992	34,742	963	70,947	68,107	57,329	325	3,302	2,640	267,190
1930	259,058	24,848	16,907	34,260	1,592	65,131	f/58,683	51,781	330	2,292	3,234	237,828
1931	227,005	21,308	17,771	28,228	2,018	65,372	f/ 52,131	33,610	300	2,175	4,092	206,142
1932	244,424	18,303	16,466	31,871	2,249	67,555	f/53,315	44,913	550	3,592	5,610	209,951
1933	239,939	20,945	17,844	31,848	1,955	68,973	f/56,967	35,749	525	5,133	...	219,857
1934	245,078	22,304	17,374	39,730	1,904	53,998	f/65,454	37,770	504	6,040	...	217,773
1935	223,661	18,654	12,507	45,154	...	47,627	53,818	38,128	1,214	6,559	...	199,018
1936	205,927	17,482	7,932	44,064	...	32,354	56,667	37,784	1,072	8,572	...	174,841
1937	216,975	16,826	16,693	44,622	...	34,369	48,735	44,260	954	10,516	...	186,794
1938	228,257	16,955	15,067	46,603	...	33,747	60,051	45,323	918	9,593	...	194,833
1939	205,484	16,753	17,517	33,637	...	32,552	49,603	40,838	1,830	12,754	...	169,614
1940	151,066	17,994	g/ 264	7,830	...	21,100	60,800	29,521	...	13,557	...	129,679
1941	122,419	17,650	5,892	h/ 1,894	34	16,344	37,393	29,549	...	13,663	...	106,862
1942	95,710	14,791	i/ 144	h/ 1,894	2,244	6,115	42,033	14,620	...	13,869	...	109,644
1943	82,467	11,436	i/ 10	-	2,316	1,653	46,471	4,878	j/ 652	15,051	...	64,022
1944	89,247	12,051	i/ 7	-	4,455	866	41,633	11,044	j/2,903	16,288	...	62,603
1945	105,992	13,625	i/ 32	7,260	2,384	556	53,266	9,000	j/1,185	18,684	...	73,511
1946	152,588	16,530	6,320	13,912	3,157	7,214	55,022	50,433	...	...	...	135,519

Note: As most of the quantity was reported as dried salted (klipfish), dried weight was used as the basis for comparison. Quantities reported as wet salted have been converted to dried basis in multiplying by 0.66.

a/ Includes those countries only for which production statistics were available for the year concerned.

b/ Export only.

c/ Exports, 1920 through 1941 and 1946. Converted from landed weight destined for salting 1942-1945.

d/ The source included wet salted and dried salted together in one figure under dried salted. Conversion of wet salted quantity was therefore not possible.

e/ Dried salted may have been included with wet salted.

f/ Dried salted only, figures for wet salted not known.

g/ Wet salted only, figure for dried salted not available.

h/ The source combined 1941 and 1942. When converted from wet salted to dried basis, this figure was here divided in two and both years were given the same quantity.

i/ Quantity of dried salted negligible.

j/ Used by the IEFC Fish Committee for allocation purpose.

REVIEW OF LANDINGS FOR 1947

Canada, 1947

(From "Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics" December 1947 Published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Prepared in collaboration with Dominion and Provincial Fisheries Departments.)

The compilation of the December returns enables the Bureau to present a preliminary review of the sea fisheries for the calendar year 1947. Landings for the year amounted to 496,102 metric tons, a decrease of about 10 percent from the 1946 total. These landings were valued at 46,038,000 Canadian dollars, a decline of about 17 percent from the previous year's figures.

The drop in the record for 1947 occurred in the fisheries of the Atlantic Coast, where landings were 20 percent by volume and 33 percent by value below those of 1946. The most serious decline took place in the cod fishery. Landings of that species fell off by about 500 metric tons from the 1946 total of 141,750 metric tons. About one-quarter of this loss was incurred during the strike in the deep-sea fishing fleet at the beginning of 1947. The greater part of the loss, however, is attributable to a sag in the U.S. market for frozen fillets early in the year. This resulted in a drop in the price for raw cod which remained effective during the height of the fishing season and caused numbers of fishermen to withdraw from this fishery in certain districts, notably in the Caspe Area, and otherwise greatly reduced the fishing effort. It will be noted that the value of the 1947 landings of cod was less than half that of the 1946 catch.

Landings in the other great Atlantic fishery, that of lobsters, also showed a decline, but this is attributable to adverse fishing conditions.

The important Pacific Coast fisheries - salmon, herring and halibut - all showed increases in both quantity landed and value during 1947. In volume landings totalled 215,369 metric tons, and in value 23,199,000 Canadian dollars, representing increases of 8.5 percent and 6.3 percent respectively. (Because of a smaller catch of sockeye salmon overall value increased less than total volume of landings.)

As to disposition of the catch, perhaps the most significant development on the Atlantic Coast was the drop in the production of cod fillets. A large part of the decrease in cod landings is accounted for in the reduced requirements of the filleting plants - the quantities of cod salted and canned showed slight increases. There was also a substantial increase in the production of canned sardines in 1947. On the Pacific Coast the only significant change in disposition was an increase in the quantity of herring canned. The disposition of the salmon catch between the fresh markets and the canneries appears to have been fairly normal.

Only fragmentary reports are available on landings in the inland fisheries during 1947. Landings in the Province of Manitoba, inclusive of the winter fishery in January and February, and of the summer and fall fisheries beginning in June, totalled 11,658 metric tons, valued at 2,645,000 Canadian dollars. In addition, landings of 73 metric tons, valued at about 15,000 Canadian dollars, are reported from the inland fisheries of New Brunswick. Information on the disposition of these landings is lacking at present.

The record of the export trade in fish products during 1947 is still incomplete, and consideration of it must be left for a future issue of this Review.

Belgium, 1946 1/

According to official reports received from Belgium for the third session of the FAO Conference landings of all marine fishery products in 1946 amounted to 69,694 metric tons with a value of 445,871,000 Belgian francs. This compares with landings in 1938 of 39,135 tons with a value of 123,379,000 Belgian francs. Landings of herrings in these two periods were 37,132 tons and 5,883 tons respectively. Thus the increase in the Belgian fish production is almost wholly ascribable to the increased herring catches. An important factor contributing to this increase in landings was the increased fish populations in the coastal waters as the result of decreased fishing during war years. This enabled fishermen to exploit the waters near the harbors with the resultant increase in the turn-about of the fleet. 5,046 tons of fish were landed by the Belgian fleet from coastal waters in 1938 while 36,229 tons were landed in 1946.

Imports in 1946 amounted to 73,000 tons compared with 69,110 tons in 1938, while exports of 7,130 tons for 1946 compared with 10,990 tons in 1938.

The Belgian fishing fleet at the end of 1946 consisted of 520 boats, aggregating tonnage of 25,677 gross tons as compared with 510 boats and a tonnage of 28,037 gross tons in 1938.

1/ These statistics replace those carried in the section on Belgian fisheries of the Fish Review, Document C 47/ 26, Aug. 25/ 47.

Denmark, 1947

In Denmark, 1947 landings amounting to 205,000 metric tons, round fresh weight slightly exceeded those of 1946. Compared with prewar this means an increase by more than 100 percent. This increase is not limited to any particular species or group of species, as there is an increase in all the species groups reported upon. The bulk of the Danish fisheries products was marketed fresh or frozen.

Iceland, 1947

Statistics for 1947 landings in Iceland reached a total of 477,000 metric tons round fresh weight; an increase of more than 100,000 tons from 1946, when landings were already 90,000 metric tons more than in 1938. Almost all the Icelandic landings are composed of "cod and related species" and "herring and similar species." The increase in the total landings is, however, mainly due to an increase in cod and related species which expansion and modernization of the trawling fleet has made possible. Iceland has a special agreement with Great Britain which allows her to land trawler catches directly in British ports. She has also expanded her freezing plant, allowing her to handle increasing quantities of frozen fish.

Further statistics from Iceland indicate that the pattern for processing cod and related species has changed almost completely. Whereas before the war wet-salted and dried-salted fish made up the bulk of end products from cod and related species, dried-salted cod and related species were not marketed at all in 1947 and wet-salted fish amounted to 32,000 tons only. Of cod and related species, 48,000 tons were marketed as eviscerated fresh and frozen and 25,000 tons were marketed as fresh or frozen fillet. Almost all the freezing plants which made this change possible have been constructed during and after the war.

Of the herring landings, 11,000 tons were marketed fresh or frozen and 8,000 tons were market salted. The predominant part of the herring landings was used for conversion into meal and oil, the marketed quantity of meal being 34,000 tons and the marketed quantity of oil 32,000 tons. Compared with the previous year, the Icelandic production of herring oil and herring meal may be described as very satisfactory, although production was expected to be greater in view of the considerable increase in the catching capacity.

Germany, 1947

In the weekly Report of the Fisheries Bipartite Control Group, Food and Agriculture Division, for the week ending 31 December 1947, it is stated that 1947 landings amounted to 269,300 metric tons. This figure comprises only whitefish and herring, and compares with a corresponding figure of 232,901 metric tons for 1946. Imports in 1946 amounted to 174,021 metric tons, making a total of 406,922 metric tons for landings and imports together. In 1947 imports fell to 113,219 metric tons, making a total supply of 382,519 metric tons.

"Receipts during 1947," the text of the Report says, "were approximately 396,345 tons of different types of fish, at landed weight. The output from this amount was approximately 246,905 tons. This shows a loss of about 37% for the year. Considering the amount that was processed and the different methods of processing, the output of 63% was fair and reasonable. The amount distributed during 1947 was approximately 232,330 tons, at ration value. This was sufficient to supply the entitled consumers with their full ration throughout the year."

Netherlands, 1947

Landings in the Netherlands in 1947 reached a total of 247,000 metric tons round fresh weight, and exceeded the 1946 landings by some 57,000 tons, due to increased landings of cod and related species, herring and similar species, and shellfish. The landings of flat fish were somewhat below the previous year. The 1947 landings exceeded the 1938 landings by some 20,000 tons, which is rather remarkable in the light of the fact that the fishing fleet which during the war was reduced to 15 percent of its prewar capacity, now has a capacity of about 70 percent of prewar.

Newfoundland, 1947[1]

(Digested from Daily News, St. John's Newfoundland)

Newfoundland's 1947 production of salted codfish is likely to be the largest quantity cured since 1935, a year producing 1,266,000 quintals (64,300 metric tons). The 1947 figure is expected to reach 1,200,000 quintals (61,000 metric tons), 200,000 quintals (10,200 metric tons) more than in 1946. All salted codfish marketing groups have merged into one association (Newfoundland Associated Fish Exporters Ltd.), through which all exports of codfish are made. Frozen codfish exports rose from 6,542,000 pounds (3,000 metric tons) in 1940 to 35,000,000 pounds (15,900 metric tons) in 1945, largely on account of wartime demand in the United Kingdom. The 1947 figure will probably be down to about 12,000,000 pounds (5,400 metric tons), because of the drop in demand from the United Kingdom and the falling off of prices in the U.S.A.

UNRRA demand was largely responsible for increasing the production of salted herring from 10,260,000 pounds (4,700 metric tons) in 1940 to nearly 65,000,000 pounds (29,500 metric tons) during 1946. The 1947 figure is expected to be about 32,000,000 pounds (14,500 metric tons) on account of the reduction of UNRRA activities in that year.

The fresh and frozen salmon trade has not recovered from the effects of the war. Prewar exports averaged between 3 and 4 million pounds (1,400 - 1,800 metric tons) annually, but 1947 figures are expected to be about 2 million pounds (900 metric tons), a decrease of 270,000 pounds (100 metric tons) compared with 1946. Canned and pickled salmon, once a major salmon export, are now being produced on a relatively small scale: canned salmon accounts for 52,000 pounds (24 metric tons) of exports - that is, 14,000 pounds (6 metric tons) less than in 1946 and pickled salmon exports fell by about 80,000 pounds (35 metric tons) to around 114,000 pounds (52 metric tons).

1/ All figures given as product weight.

Live lobster exports - practically all to U.S.A. - reached a record figure of 3,146,000 pounds (1,400 metric tons), an increase of 670,000 pounds (300 metric tons) over 1946 figures. Trade in live lobsters is more than three times as great as it was ten years ago; on the other hand, canned lobster exports have fallen off from 194,000 pounds (88 metric tons) in 1946 to 110,000 pounds (50 metric tons) in 1947.

Exports of seal oil in 1947 are expected to be over 400,000 gallons (1,400 metric tons), as compared with 129,892 gallons (500 metric tons) in 1946. This reflects increased activity with improved equipment which resulted in the capture of 105,725 seals in 1947, as compared with 34,605 seals in 1946.

Whaling produced 678,000 gallons (2,300 metric tons) of oil and 3,960,000 pounds (1,800 metric tons) of guano in 1946 and it was expected to produce over 1,000,000 gallons (3,400 metric tons) of oil and about 4,700,000 pounds (2,100 metric tons) of guano in 1947. This is the product of two whale factories and six whale catching ships.

During 1946 the export values of all fish and fishery products amounted to very nearly 34 million Canadian dollars. The overall total for 1947 is not expected to show any sharp decline.

Norway, 1947 1/

According to year-end calculations in the Norwegian Magazine "Fiskets Gang," Norwegian fishermen landed in the year 1947, 1,058,700 metric tons 2/ compared with 834,856 in 1946. The value to the fisherman in 1947 is computed to be 296 million Norwegian Kroner (1946: 200 million Kroner). With the exception of the years 1938 and 1940 when the total landings amounted to 1,065,000 tons and 1,081,000 tons, the figures for the 1947 landings are the highest on record, and the value of the 1947 landings surpassed all previous figures. The next highest total value on record up to this time is for the 1916 landings, which amounted to 188 million Kroner. As the quantity in 1916 was much smaller, this year still has the highest ton value on record.

The events underlying these favorable figures for the total landings may be summarized as follows: although the winter herring fisheries started late, the total quantity landed amounted to 5.3 million hectoliters (about 530,000 tons). Favorably smooth but rather cold weather prevailed during the entire season.

The fat and small herring season, usually carried on from early summer to the end of the year, is described as a failure, as it was in the previous year.

Norway participated in the herring fisheries of Iceland with 201 vessels making 222 trips. Of this number, 47 vessels used purse seine, 151 gill nets and the remainder of the vessels were used for transport only. As a whole, the results are described as satisfactory with a total of 191,000 barrels of salted herring and an estimated value of 21 million Norwegian Kroner.

1/ Statistics in this survey are not converted to fresh round weight.
2/ The whale and seal catch and fresh-water fisheries are not included in these figures.

During the summer months, 70 medium size vessels participated in trawl fishing for herring in the North Sea. This was the second year in which Norway took part in this kind of fishing, and, in spite of the fact that certain market difficulties were encountered for the new product, the experiment was considered a success.

The brisling (sprat) fisheries did not prove as successful as had been hoped.

During the spawning cod fisheries, the center of which is the Lofoten Islands, the landings were extremely profitable. Although this is more true of the Lofoten district than for other sections of the coast, the total quantity landed of spawning cod amounted to 206,000 metric tons, which is more than for any other year since 1926.

On account of the complete destruction of the county of Finnmark, the spring fisheries for cod in this district were not expected to be in line with prewar landings. Nevertheless, almost 23,000 tons were landed compared with 13,000 tons during the previous year.

Norwegians resumed most of the fisheries in distant waters which had been discontinued during the war, but not with the same degree of success. Otter trawl fishing is described as disappointing; the total landings did not exceed 4,000 tons of wet salted cod.

During the mackerel fisheries, record breaking landings were realized. The landings of coalfish fisheries were below the normal landings, and the shrimp fisheries are described as less successful.

Long lining along the coastal banks realized good catches but were very much hampered by stormy weather. Fishing for porbeagle was hindered by market difficulties and the activities were limited.

Statistics on the total production of the fisheries industry are not yet available for all end products. According to a preliminary estimate, the total export of fisheries products may be 365,000 tons, exported weight, with a value of some 500 million Norwegian kroner, f.o.b.

The total production of klipfish (dried salted cod and related species) is approximately 55,000 tons.

Here is a list of estimated export quantities and corresponding values of some important products:

	Exported Quantity (Metric tons)	Estimated Value (Million kroner) f.o.b.
Dried Salted Fish (klipfish)	40,000	100
Wet Salted Fish	10,000	12
Stockfish	14,000	38
Fresh (Iced) Fish, Crustaceans included	29,000	43
Frozen Fish	20,000	35
Salted Roe	...	7
Medical Codliver Oil	...	40
Fresh Herring	107,000	38
Salted Herring	94,000	73
Canned Fisheries Products	30,000	100

Norwegian Whaling, 1947

(Royal Norwegian Information Service, N.Y., U.S.A.)

During the winter season 1946/47, whaling in the Antarctic was carried on satisfactorily. The total production of oil amounted to 163,000 tons. About 80 percent of the oil production was sold to foreign countries at a basic price of 100 pounds sterling a metric ton. The remaining 20 percent was used for domestic consumption. The value of Norwegian whaling was approximately 290 million Norwegian Kroner.

During the war, Norway lost 8 floating whale factories. By the end of 1947, 4 were already replaced and one other ship was being constructed.

The aim of Norwegian whalers in 1947/48 is to catch as many as possible of the 16,000 blue whale units as allowed for the Antarctic fields, according to the International Whaling Agreement.

In 1946/47 the Norwegian whaling fleet comprised 7 boileries, 1 landing station and 65 catching boats. In the Antarctic the catch totalled about 163,000 metric tons of oil, out of which 155,600 tons were manufactured in floating boileries. During the present period the Norwegian fleet consisted of 9 boileries, 1 landing station, and 88 catching boats. Four British, 1 Dutch, 2 Japanese and 2 Russian boileries were also at the field. In addition, whaling is carried on from 2 British landing stations. This means that there is 1 Russian boilery more than in the previous season. In 1945/46, 6 boileries, 1 landing station and 49 catching boats were working for Norwegian account. The total catch was 86,000 tons.

3,560 men were signed on for the Norwegian expeditions. In addition, 2,445 men have obtained permits to work on board foreign expeditions.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 1947

(From U.S.A. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Commercial Fisheries)

The catch of fish and shellfish in the United States and Alaska amounted to 1,996,000 metric tons in 1947 according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates. This catch is about the same as the 1935-1939 average. Landings of menhaden were over 450,000 metric tons - the greatest on record - as compared with 415,000 metric tons in 1946. About 5,200,000 cases (113,000 metric tons) of salmon were packed, almost 600,000 cases (13,000 metric tons) more than last year, but still below the average for prewar years. The pack of tuna, 5,800,000 cases (51,000 metric tons) was over one million cases (8,800 metric tons) larger than in 1946 and a new record. The catch of pilchards was about 113,400 metric tons - the smallest in over 20 years - due to another failure of the runs off Northern California and appreciably decreased catches off Southern California. The Maine sardine pack totalled 2,800,000 cases (25,800 metric tons) - only 10 percent under the previous year. Over one million cases (20,000 metric tons) of mackerel were canned.

Cold storage warehouses reporting to the Fish and Wildlife Service froze 111,600 metric tons of fishery products which was 15,400 metric tons less than during the previous year. The monthly holdings of frozen fishery products were consistently below the same months in 1946. The manufacture of fish meal amounted to 172,400 metric tons and the production of fish oil to 51,800 metric tons.

Imports of groundfish fillets were only 15,200 metric tons as compared to the record total of 22,300 metric tons in 1946.

Additions of fishing craft to the fleet were about four times the prewar average with 1,300 vessels over 5 tons being documented. The leading fishing port was San Pedro, California. It received some 195,000 metric tons of pilchards, tuna, and mackerel, primarily for canning purposes. At Lewes, Delaware, about 113,400 metric tons of menhaden were landed for reduction to fish meal and fish oil. In third place, Boston received over 90,700 metric tons of fish and shellfish, almost wholly for the fresh and frozen trade.

Poland, 1947

Landings in Poland amounted to 39,207 metric tons round fresh weight. Of this 30,166 metric tons was cod and related species.

Table 3. - Summary of Landings in Some Countries, 1938, 1946, and 1947
(Metric Tons, Round Fresh Weight a/)

Country and year	Total	Cod and related species	Herring and similar species	Tuna	Mackerel (all types included)	Flatfish, (halibut, flounder, etc.)	Salmon, trout & similar species	Shell-fish	Shark & shark-like species	Fresh-water fish	Other species
Denmark:											
1938	89,843	24,058	14,525	-	5,973	30,419	123	591	-	-	14,154
1946	197,400	68,000	27,500	630	7,200	66,700	1,400	2,900	1,800	270	21,000
1947	205,400	55,000	32,000	300	11,000	61,000	1,700	3,000	4,000	400	37,000
Finland:											
1946	49,000	100	20,000	-	-	10	500	-	-	20,000	8,390
1947	46,000	100	21,000	-	-	10	450	-	-	17,000	7,440
Iceland:											
1938	b/274,267	111,524	155,876	-	-	2,543	562	170	-	-	b/3,592
1946	368,150	225,700	131,720	-	-	4,900	450	-	-	-	5,380
1947	477,152	243,749	216,948	-	-	6,022	353	-	-	-	10,080
Ireland:											
1938	c/11,976	903	3,325	-	2,479	1,190	735	c/1,923	1,421	-	-
1946	21,082	5,029	5,182	-	3,404	965	711	3,759	-	152	1,880
1947	18,312	4,678	5,464	-	1,815	992	800	2,415	1,014	142	992
Netherlands:											
1938	226,071	16,206	98,999	-	6,944	14,015	19	56,361	-	314	23,213
1946	190,362	18,500	106,500	-	800	21,000	2	38,500	60	-	5,000
1947	247,283	24,800	140,000	-	1,800	16,150	3	58,000	30	-	6,500

a/ Reported as round fresh weight for 1946 and 1947. For 1938 statistics on landings, which were found in the fisheries statistics of the country concerned, have been converted to round fresh weight to the extent possible.
b/ Excluding 415,000 lumpsuckers.
c/ Excluding 37,074 crabs, 36,957, crayfish, 293,467 oysters, 182,049 scallops, and 425,179 lobsters, all measured in numbers and not converted to metric tons.

CURRENT FISHERIES

Norway, 1948

We hope to be able to include current reports from national fisheries, which are carried on at the time for issuing the bulletin. For this issue, such information has been available from three countries only. The following, from the Norwegian Fisheries Administration on 18 February by air mail as clippings from the weekly Norwegian Magazine, "Fiskets Gang":

The winter herring fisheries were extremely successful according to statistics brought up to 15 February. Here are the results compared with the total landings at about the same date last year (all figures in hectoliters).

Utilization	Total Landings up to 15 February 1948	Total Landings up to 16 February 1947
Exported fresh	680,705	595,527
Salted	663,827	689,488
Canned	125,690	85,165
Meal and Oil	2,446,133	1,743,713
Bait	118,238	65,682
Fresh domestic consumption	53,929	37,341
TOTAL	4,088,522	3,116,916

The results of the cod fisheries in 1948 are not as good as for the previous year. Up to 14 February, 21,292 metric tons had been landed, compared with 42,572 metric tons for the same period in 1947. Out of the total landings in 1948, 571 metric tons were used for stockfish, 6,066 tons for salted fish and 14,447 tons were marketed fresh or frozen. The quantities used for stockfish and salted fish are much smaller than the previous year whereas the quantity used fresh almost equals that of the previous year.

The low landings of cod during January and the first half of February, 1948, may indicate that the prediction for lower total catch, based on biological considerations might eventuate. However, the most important months for these fisheries are those of February, March and part of April. On 14 February, 12,570 fishermen were engaged in operations in the Lofoten Island fishing fields, and the total participation during the most intensive part of the season used to be from 20 to 30,000 fishermen.

Total landings of fish and shellfish from the sea fisheries during January 1948, amounted to 50,013 metric tons, valued at 2,447,000 Canadian dollars. This was an increase of 24.6 percent in quantity and of 34.4 percent in value as compared with January, 1947. Much of the increase is attributable to Nova Scotia, where a strike of deep-sea fishermen was in progress a year ago, but the increase was general in all provinces.

On the Pacific Coast, of the total landings of 42,865 metric tons, 42,321 metric tons consisted of herring, nearly three-quarters of which was destined for reduction. The herring catch increased by 21.1 percent over that of January 1947.

Landings on the Atlantic Coast totalled 7,167 metric tons, an increase of 62.8 percent over January 1947. The only species of any importance showing decreases was hake.

Landings of inland fish in four provinces during the month totalled 2,051 metric tons, valued at 603,667 Canadian dollars.

The total value of fisheries exports in 1947 at 82,359,203 Canadian dollars, was 5 percent lower than the figure of 86,572,684 Canadian dollars, recorded for 1946. Decreases were noted in fresh and frozen groundfish, both round and filleted, and also in smoked and pickled groundfish. Exports of dry-salted groundfish increased to the U.S.A., Trinidad, British Caribbean islands (except Jamaica), Cuba and other Caribbean and Latin American countries There was a large increase in exports of fresh and frozen halibut to the United States and the same is true of fresh and frozen salmon. The United States took fewer fresh lobsters. Exports of inland fish to the same country also showed a decline.

Exports of pickled herring were only half those of 1946. Increases were noted in shipments to Barbados, Jamaica and the Leeward and Windward Islands. Relief shipments to Poland continued on a smaller scale and those to Czechoslovakia disappeared. Puerto Rico took only one-third as much as in 1946 and the U.S. about one-half. Pickled mackerel followed the general trends of pickled herring.

Total exports of canned fish were valued at 31,510,497 Canadian dollars. This was an increase of 1.9 percent in quantity and of 3.5 percent in value over 1946. Increases were recorded in clams, herring, sardines and other sea fish, while haddock, pilchards, salmon and lobsters declined.

Wholesale and retail prices of fish products were generally higher in December 1947.

(From "Monthly Review of Canadian Fisheries Statistics," January 1948. Published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Prepared in collaboration with Dominion and Provincial Fisheries Departments.)

Newfoundland 1/

According to reports from the Newfoundland Fisheries Board, stocks of salted codfish on hand as of 20 January 1948, were 20,720 metric tons as compared with 6,431 metric tons on 31 January last year. Exports (unrevised) of salted codfish during January 1948 amounted to some 10,549 metric tons. Exports for the period July 1947 to January 1948 were 36,657 metric tons; this compares with 38,069 metric tons exported in the corresponding period of 1946/47.

CONVERSION FACTORS USED IN THIS BULLETIN

Converted from:	To:	Multiplier
Pounds	Metric tons	0.0004536
Cwt. (112 pounds)	" "	0.0508
Cwt. (100 pounds)	" "	0.04536
Quintal (112 pounds)	" "	0.0508
Short Ton (2,000 pounds)	" "	0.9072
Long Ton (2,240 pounds)	" "	1.0161
Kilograms	" "	0.001
Metric Quintals	" "	0.1
Kilograms	Metric Quintals	0.01
Gallons	Liters	3.7853
Imperial Gallons	"	4.546
Wet-salted cod & Related Species	Dried basis	0.66

1/ All figures product weight.